

ATTACHMENT TO NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY

Election/Restrictions

This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 15-19 directed to an invention non-elected without traverse. Accordingly, claims 15-19 have been cancelled.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Lawrence Russ, Reg. No. 35,342 on 02/11/09.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

In Claim 7, at Line 4, change "the incident ray" to --an incident ray--.

In Claim 8, at Line 3, change "a ray source" to --an x-ray source--.

In Claim 14, at Line 7, change "a ray source" to --an x-ray source--.

In Claim 23, at Line 4, change "width of Multi-Prism Lens" to --width of the Multi-Prism Lens--.

In Claim 25, at Line 3, change "the incident ray" to --an incident ray--.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-14 and 20-29 are allowed.

With respect to Claim 1, the prior art of record teaches most of the elements of the claimed invention, including a refractive element suitable for refracting x-rays, comprising: a body of low-z material having a first end adapted to receive rays emitted from a ray source and a second end from which the rays received at the first end emerge; said refractive element comprising: a first row of substantially identical prisms disposed between said first end and said second end along a first direction; a second row of substantially identical prisms disposed between said first end and said second end along the first direction; each of said prisms of said first row and of said second row being of a substantially triangular shape having two side portions and one base portion; said first row of substantially identical prisms being arranged on top of said second row of substantially identical prisms in a second direction perpendicular to said first direction.

However, prior art does not teach that said first and second rows are further arranged so that a base portion of a given prism in said first row faces an intersection

point of said side portions of a given prism in said second row, in the manner required by Claim 1.

With respect to Claim 8, the prior art of record teaches many of the elements of the claimed invention, including an x-ray lens, formed of a body of low-z material having a first end adapted to receive rays emitted from a ray source and a second end from which the rays received at the first end are refracted, wherein said x-ray lens is comprised of a portion comprising: a first row of substantially identical prisms disposed between said first end and said second end along a first direction; a second row of substantially identical prisms disposed between said first end and said second end along the first direction; each of said prisms of said first row and of said second row being of a substantially triangular shape having two side portions and one base portion; said first row of substantially identical prisms being arranged on top of said second row of substantially identical prisms in a second direction.

However, prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest the lens wherein said lens comprises two of said portions, and that each of said portions are further arranged so that a base portion of a given prism in said first row faces an intersection point of said side portions of a given prism in said second row, in the manner required by Claim 8.

With respect to Claim 13, the prior art of record teaches many of the elements of the claimed invention, including an x-ray apparatus, comprising: at least one x-ray source; a detector assembly; and, a refractive element, comprising: a body of low-z material having a first end adapted to receive rays emitted from the x-ray source and a second end from which the rays received at the first end emerge; said refractive

element further comprising: a first row of substantially identical prisms disposed between said first end and said second end along a first direction; a second row of substantially identical prisms disposed between said first end and said second end along the first direction; each of said prisms of said first row and of said second row being of a substantially triangular shape having two side portions and one base portion; said first row of substantially identical prisms being arranged on top of said second row of substantially identical prisms in a second direction.

However, prior art does not teach that said first and second rows of the refractive element are further arranged so that a base portion of a given prism in said first row faces an intersection point of said side portions of a given prism in said second row, in the manner required by Claim 13.

With respect to Claim 14, the prior art of record teaches many of the elements of the claimed invention, including an x-ray apparatus, comprising: at least one x-ray source; a detector assembly; and, an x-ray lens, formed of a body of low-z material having a first end adapted to receive rays emitted from a ray source and a second end from which the rays received at the first end are refracted, wherein said x-ray lens is comprised of a portion comprising: a first row of substantially identical prisms disposed between said first end and said second end along a first direction; a second row of substantially identical prisms disposed between said first end and said second end along the first direction; each of said prisms of said first row and of said second row being of a substantially triangular shape having two side portions and one base portion;

said first row of substantially identical prisms being arranged on top of said second row of substantially identical prisms in a second direction.

However, prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest the apparatus wherein said x-ray lens comprises two of said portions, and that, for each of said portions, said first and second rows are further arranged so that a base portion of a given prism in said first row faces an intersection point of said side portions of a given prism in said second row, in the manner required by Claim 14.

Claims 2-12 and 20-29 are allowed by virtue of their dependency.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANASTASIA MIDKIFF whose telephone number is (571)272-5053. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7-4.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Glick can be reached on 571-272-2490. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. M./
Examiner, Art Unit 2882
2/10/09

/Edward J Glick/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2882